**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace paragraph [0028] on page 7, with the following amended paragraph:

--[0028] When the lifting means 9 for example lifts a defective sheet metal panel 16 or more than one sheet metal panel 16 from the stack 17, the detection means 29 will signalize such an error to the central control means 30 and monitors the functions of the singling means 10. The control means 30 is connected by a connection [[37]] with the lifting means 9 and connections (not illustrated) with the longitudinal conveying means 22 and 28. The lifting means 9 will move any defective sheet metal panel 16 or a set thereof with two or more unsingled sheet metal panels 16 of the stack 17 to a reject deposit position 31, which is arranged at the end of the singling device 10 opposite to the working site. The lifting means 9 is in this case reversed in direction and deposits the sheet metal panel or panels 16 on a roller conveyor 32 preceding the deposit position 31, on which conveyor the panel or panels 16 roll on to the deposit position 31.--

Please replace paragraph [0029] on page 7, bridging page 8, with the following amended paragraph:

--[0029] In the situation depicted in figure 2 the carriage 19 is empty. The sheet metal panel stack 17 has been unloaded by the lifting means 9. The carriage 19 may now be

moved on its wheels [[30]] 33 in the transverse direction from the singling device 10 and reloaded with new sheet metal panels 16. Then it is moved back to the tendering position 12. In the meantime the carriage 20 is unloaded at the tendering position 13 by the lifting means.--

Please replace paragraph [0030] on page 8, with the following amended paragraph:

--Then the longitudinal conveying means 22 is in a second longitudinal position [[33]] 39, in which it is displaced from the working site 21, to the left in [[the]] figure 2. In the second longitudinal position [[33]] 39 the longitudinal conveying means 22 bridges over the tendering position 12. The tendering position 13 is freely accessible for the lifting means 9. It lifts separate panel 16 from the carriage 20 and deposits same, after a movement in the longitudinal direction 14 along the guide means 11, on the second longitudinal conveying means 28. The full movement is indicated by an arrow 38. The second longitudinal conveying means 28 feeds the sheet metal panels to the working site 21.--

Please replace paragraph [0031] on page 8, bridging page 9, with the following amended paragraph:

--If the lifting means 9 fails to function properly and lifts more than one sheet metal panel 16 from the stack 18,

it does not have to return along the entire distance to the reject deposit position 31 for depositing the sheet metal panel stack after [[it]] its direction of movement has been reversed, and instead deposits the defective panel 16 or, respectively, the sheet metal panel stack, on the first longitudinal conveying means 22. For this purpose it moves to the left in terms of [[the]] figure 2 from the working site 21 toward the deposit position into a position 34, in which the lifting means 9 is indicated in figure 2 in chained lines. The longitudinal displacement 35 between the tendering position 13 and the position 34 is in any case substantially shorter than the full displacement between the tendering position 13 and the deposit position 31. The conveying direction of the longitudinal conveying means 28 is, if a sheet metal panel stack is to be conveyed to the deposit position 31, opposite to the direction of conveying in the longitudinal position 23. The longitudinal conveying means 28 moves the defective panel 16 or, respectively, the sheet metal panel stack to the reject deposit position 31, that is to say in the working example to the roller conveyor 32.--